

# THE → VARIANT →

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This being a continuing journal of postal play.

## CAST OF CHARACTERS:

Gamesmaster-----Tommy Lee Ogle  
Typist-----Tommy Lee Ogle  
Proofreader-----Tommy Lee Ogle  
Publisher-----Cynical Press

and

A CAST OF THOUSANDS!!!!!!!!!!!!

ALLAN CALHAMER STRIKES AGAIN! Allan Calhamer has come out with a brand new game he calls HYPER-SPACE (not hyper-space diplomacy), in which the players, of which there are only two, head exploration teams which are racing to discover the mountainous (presumably, mineral-laden) parts of a topographically four-dimensional planet. The game employs four boards and 168 pieces. Allan say it should come out in either late March or early April. It costs \$4.95 and should be interesting.

The SWISS VARIANT seems to be going along alright. Got all of two subscriptions and two offers to play the variant and one for a regular game. Which reminds me.....

the orders for hyperspace moves are written thusly: A Swi-Tun (hs); the order for setting up a link is written L Swi-Tun. Separation orders are written S Ber-Kei (Kie? Damn it, wish I had my board in front of me.)

ARRGH! I've got Austria-Hungary for the third time in a row in postal Diplomacy!

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five is a four-lettered word

GAMES\*GAMES\*GAMES\*GAMES\*GAMES\*GAMES\*GAMES\*GAMES\*GAMES\*GAMES\*GAMES

Swiss Variant Number One:

PLAYERS

Larry St. Cyr, Jr., 30 Frederick St., North Adams, Mass.  
01247-----Owes Game Fees

Donald Cowan, 1605 8th Avenue, N. W., Decatur, Alabama  
35601-----Paid

John Cunningham, 1428 College St., S. W., Decatur, Alabama  
35601-----Paid

Dick Rieter, c/o Colonel Glenn C. Rieter, HQ 2nd Wea. Wg.  
(Cmr Box 166), APO New York, N.Y.  
09332-----Owes Game Fees

~~Thom Holaday, 7 Carlton Road, Wellesley, Mass.~~  
02181-----Paid

Gerald White, 4004 S. E. Pine St., Portland, Oregon  
97214-----Paid

Bill Linden, 83-33 Austin St., Kew Gardens, N. Y.  
11415-----Paid

Margaret Gemignani, 3200 N. E. 36th St., Ft. Lauderdale,  
Florida -----Owes Game Fees

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Please note, Frank Lunney is no longer playing.

This game will start as soon as I get word from Dick and  
Larry, who have not responded in any way since issue #1.

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Game Fees are \$2.00 the first game and \$1.50 afterward. These  
rather low game fees will last for two more issues, then they  
will increase by either 50¢ or \$1, I'm not sure which yet.

## Normal Diplomacy Game One:

### PLAYERS

Gerald White-----address above, paid

Donald Cowan-----address above, paid

Dick Rieter-----address above, not paid (note, last time I listed him as paid)

Margaret Comignani-----address above, not paid

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This game is in need of three players.

So far I've got no replies to my request for written, or drawn, material for printing, but I'm still waiting.

For those of you that are wondering, the Gamesmaster address is 2318 Cleveland Avenue N.W., Decatur, Alabama 35601

The House Rules of this mag will be a combination of the Allan Calhoner rules and the Diplomania House Rules except in the case of retreats. In this case the Just Right-Hand Rule will apply. The JHR (invented by Eric Just, one of the three men who independantly invented postal Diplomacy) goes like this: if a player wishes to anticipate the retreat of any of his units, he may send with his moves a retreat for any of them which he feels are in danger of dislodgement. If the unit could possibly be dislodged by more than one player, or if the original location of the dislodging unit would make a difference, he may submit alternative retreats, based on the identity of the attacker. If the unit is dislodged, the retreat is made. If, however, a retreat order is not sent for a unit which is dislodged, the retreat is made by the Gamesmaster in accordance with the following procedure. Consider that between the attacking unit's province and the dislodged unit's province there was a front, delineated by the map-border between them. The dislodged unit is retreated to the province immediately to the right of that "front". If that province is unavailable, then it is retreated

to the province immediately to the left. If that, too, is unavailable, then the province next closest to the right, or left, is used, and so on until all available provinces are exhausted; then, if the unit has no available retreat, it is annihilated. Thus, if a unit in Rumania is dislodged by an attack from Budapest, the available provinces are, in order of priority, Galicia, Serbia, Ukraina, Bulgaria, Sevastopol, Black Sea. The positions of "right" and "left" are determined by holding the map in such a way that the attacker is seen as coming "down" toward the dislodged unit. In the above example, the action is viewed from the east.

Some may argue over the rule, saying it causes extra work on the behalf of the players, but, for the Gamesmaster it eliminates possible time-consuming delays. On the part of the player it reduces uncertainty.

Those of you who wish to comment on this may do so.

This is.

Overly

Absinal

Prose,

Gross

Errors,

Ingratiating

Run-ons,

Tympanic

Anecdotes,

And

Terribly

Twisted

Idioms

Implying

Only

Our

Naughty

Motions

This issue has been composed on stencil.

# QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD

I will now attempt to answer some questions that have been sent to me by various reader(s).

Yes Larry, you are still in the Swiss Variant as is evident by this issue.

I'm sorry Peggy, I can't accept books or zines at the moment-- I'm still in dire straights as far as money is concerned, but I'm in the black as long as book are concerned.

A CORRECTION? Hell No, an addition.

Harold Naus is now playing in Normal Diplomacy Game One.  
His address is: 1011 Barrett Avenue  
Chula Vista, California  
92010

And maybe--the Swiss Peasants' Journal will reappear along with Radio Free Europe, which has been silent a long time.

I would like to place a plug for The Limbourg Gazette and Bi-Monthly Almanac, which is certainly one of the more entertaining magazines of Postal Diplomacy around. It is obtainable from either Craig Klyver at 6254 Langdon, Van Nuys, California or John W. Turnquist, Jr., at 6649 Cedros Avenue, Van Nuys, California. (Craig's zipcode is 91401 and John's is 91405.)

On the way back from the store today I met a most weird person. He was dressed in a large, flowing white sheet and a nazi helmet. Being rather foolish, I asked him what the hell did he think he was. The reply was, "I'm a nazghoul." Ugh!

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Ballet keeps you on your toes!

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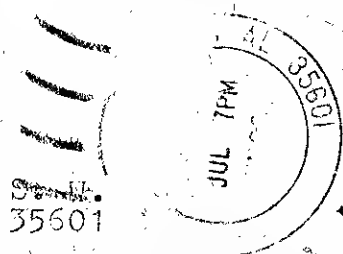
That loathsome interlineation ends the sermon for today.

THE END!

The Swiss Variant is free to all participants in games being played within. Others may buy individual copies for 10¢. Subscription rate is 10 for a dollar. Address code: S-1 and S-2 = sample copies one and two; T = trade; Z = subscriber-any number following this is the number of the last issue of your subscription; P = player in game within; Y = last issue unless you do something.

THE SWISS VARIANT

c/o Tommy Lee Oglet  
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TO

Captain Rod Walker (T)  
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Rantoul, Ill.  
61866